



19570.44353
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

MITCHELL, Dennis

Examiner: LEJA, R.W.

Serial No. 09/138,253

500

Filed: 08/21/98

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For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR
PROTECTION OF HEATING,
VENTILATION AND AIR
CONDITIONING CONTROL
CIRCUITS FROM OVERCURRENTS

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.132

Dear Sir:

David D. Munoz declares as follows:

1: I have been in the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) industry for over 15 years. I am involved in many HVAC organizations as both a member and an officer on the board of directors. This is at a local and state level. The amount of time I have been in the business and the organizations that I am serving on have been instrumental in my experience. I am currently president of Air Star, Inc. an HVAC design, installation, and service company in San Antonio, Texas.

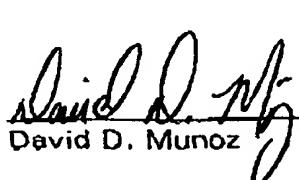
2. Systems referred to as heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems are understood by those of us involved in the industry to be heating and cooling systems installed in residential and commercial buildings at fixed sites. The control circuits for HVAC systems operate at 24VAC. Both of these characteristics (fixed site and alternating current power) distinguish HVAC control circuits from 24 VDC vehicle

systems.

3. Those persons, such as myself, professionally skilled in the art of HVAC system design, installation, and repair normally are not similarly skilled in the art of design, installation and repair of vehicular ventilation systems. Still further, because of fundamental differences between the two types of systems, those persons skilled in the aspects of HVAC would not look to the vehicle ventilation arts when designing HVAC systems or when studying solutions to HVAC problems.

4. I feel that this piece of equipment will help the HVAC organization in a fantastic way. The need for a device and method to solve the problems associated with one-shot or manually resettable circuit protection devices in alternating current HVAC control circuits in fixed site installations is a long-standing and persistent one. While conventional circuit breakers may address this need to some extent, they still require manual resetting. To date, I have not seen a solution to the problem that compares with Mr. Mitchell's. I am happy that Mr. Mitchell has taken the time and money to do this, where others with motivation and access to the same knowledge have failed. His initiative will be felt in this industry. I believe strongly that this device is needed and will have great success in this industry.

5. I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above referenced application or any patent issuing thereon.


David D. Munoz

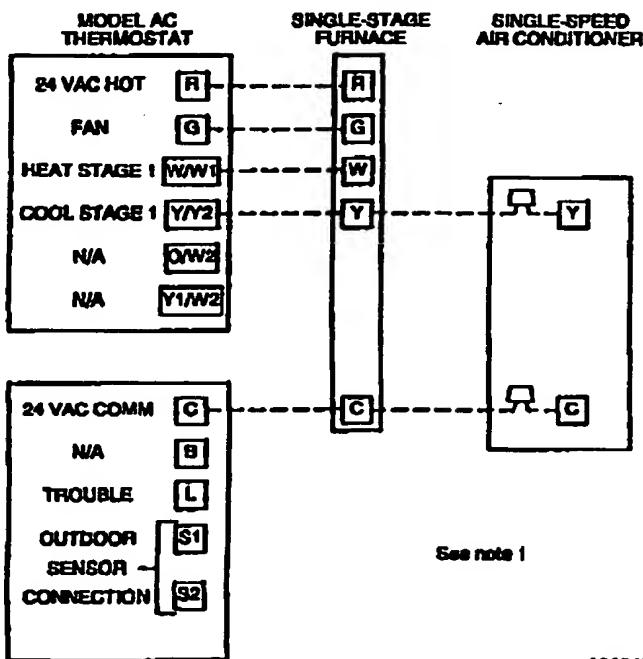
7/2/99
Date

TYPICAL HVAC WIRING

NOTE: If HOLD button is not left ON, temperature setting will be lost until time/temperature program is entered.

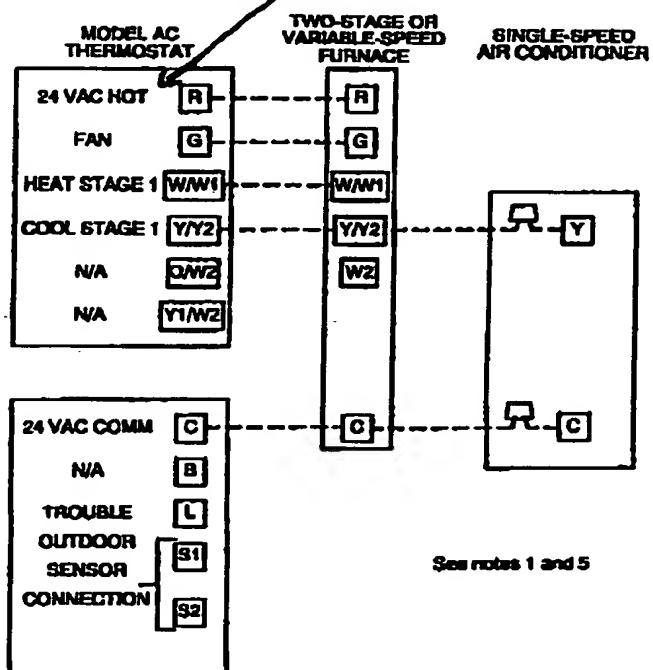
Step 8—Checklist

1. Put away tools and instruments, and clean up debris.
2. Review Homeowner's Guide with owner.
3. Leave literature packet with owner.



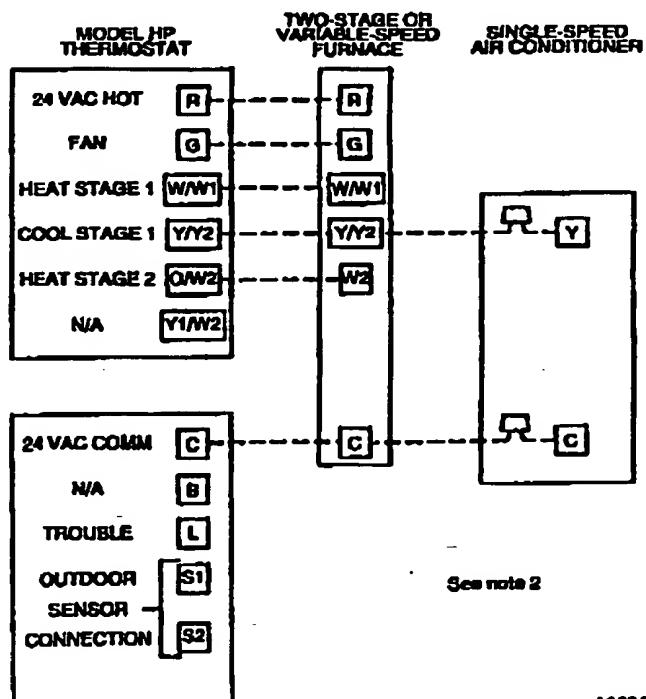
→Fig. 2—Single-Speed Air Conditioner
with Single-Stage Furnace—Model AC Thermostat

A96340



→Fig. 3—Single-Speed Air Conditioner
with 2-Stage or Variable-Speed Furnace
—Model AC Thermostat

A96341



→Fig. 4—Single-Speed Air Conditioner
with 2-Stage or Variable-Speed Furnace
—Model HP Thermostat

A96342

FROM:
Carrier, Model HP
Thermostat Installation
Instructions.

EXHIBIT A